

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1849 - SB 1814

April 12, 2016

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Makes various changes to the requirements to become a clinical pastoral therapist. Reduces the required graduate semester hours for licensure as a clinical pastoral therapist from 120 hours to 60 hours of graduate semester hours in course studies as approved by the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapists and Clinical Pastoral Therapists ("BLCT"). Requires an applicant to such license receive either a master's or doctoral degree from a recognized education institution instead of a master's or doctoral degree in pastoral therapy or a closely related field Removes the requirements to complete a practicum consisting of at least one unit of full time clinical pastoral education in a program accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education; and to complete an internship consisting of at least two years of clinical pastoral therapy training in an approved training program.

Authorizes the BLCT to issue a temporary license to a clinical pastoral therapist applicant who has completed the application for a temporary license, completed the appropriate academic course work, provided satisfactory evidence of an agreement with an approved supervisor, and paid all required fees. This temporary license authorizes the applicant to engage in the practice of clinical pastoral therapy under the supervision of an approved supervisor. A temporary license is nonrenewable and is valid for a period of not more than three years. In order to retain this license, an individual must successfully pass a written exam provided by the BLCT the first time such exam is scheduled following issuance of the license or within two years following the issuance of the temporary license, whichever is earlier. This legislation will be effective upon becoming law.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Revenue - \$700/Board for Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapists and Clinical Pastoral Therapists

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (013143, 015907):** Amendment 013143 deletes and replaces language of the bill such that substantive changes include: authorizes the BLCT to grant the holder of a temporary license an extension to the requirement for passing a written exam to the first time such exam is administered following issuance of such license; establishes that an applicant for a clinical pastoral therapist license who holds a temporary license may receive only one extension to pass the written exam beyond the two years following issuance of such temporary license; and establishes that an applicant for a clinical pastoral therapist license who holds a temporary license may extend such license for a period greater than three years only once for good cause.

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Amendment 015907 deletes and replaces language in the bill as amended by amendment 013143 such that it makes non-substantive changes to the application requirements of a licensed clinical pastoral therapist. Furthermore, amendment 015907 adds language to the bill as amended by amendment 013143 such that it expands the definition of an “approved supervisor” to include any person who is a licensed clinical pastoral therapist and is either a) a diplomate of the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy and b) a fellow of the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy who is under the supervision of a supervisor.

## **FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:**

### **Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- This legislation will reduce the number of graduate semester hours required to apply for licensure as a clinical pastoral therapist.
- No direct increase in the number of clinical pastoral therapist licenses issued by the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marital and Family Therapists and Licensed Pastoral Therapists (“BLCT”) as a result of this legislation.
- Creates a new temporary license for clinical pastoral therapists. This license is separate and apart from full licensure as a clinical pastoral therapist license. Any individual who attains this temporary license must present themselves as either a “pastoral therapy intern” or “pastoral therapy trainee.”
- This license is nonrenewable and is valid for a period of three years from the date of issuance.
- An application fee of \$100 for a temporary license and the \$10 state regulatory fee.
- An estimated two individuals annually per grand division or six total individuals will seek this temporary license (2 x 3).
- A recurring increase in state revenue of \$660 to the BLCT [6 persons x (\$100 + \$10)].
- The BLCT can process applications for this new temporary license utilizing existing staff during normal work hours.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health related boards are required to be self-supporting over any two-year period. The BLCT had surpluses of \$103,043 in FY13-14, \$84,292 in FY14-15 and a cumulative reserve balance of \$716,422 on June 30, 2015.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee" followed by the initials "RNC".

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/jdb